

# Chula Vista Climate Change Impacts & Adaptation Options

## PUBLIC HEALTH & WILDFIRES

Draft Updated: 3/1/2010

CLIMATE CHANGES	IMPACT TO SAN DIEGO REGION	HOW IS CHULA VISTA VULNERABLE TO IMPACTS? (pressure on economy, physical infrastructure, society, environment, & other systems)	ADAPTATION OPTIONS (potential responses to manage vulnerabilities)	Source of Adaptation Option
Warmer temperatures, especially in summer	More frequent, intense and longer heat waves (about 3 x more frequent by 2050)	A General increase in heat stroke, heat exhaustion, death, and exacerbation of existing diseases amongst residents during heat waves		
		1	Work with the County to ensure that all Chula Vista city departments and community groups possibly involved in implementing the County's Excessive Heat Response Plan are aware and equipped to perform their role	Focus 2050 Technical Assessment
		2	Expand existing "cooling centers" available in Chula Vista during heat events to ensure adequate space is available at all times of the week (including nights), with back up generators	County of San Diego New York City Toronto
		3	Work with the utility to require that electricity and water are not shut off for nonpayment during declared stages of the County's Excessive Heat Response Plan	Philadelphia Fulton
		4	Partner with local CERT participants during declared heat emergency events to support cooling center operations and outreach	CERT-LA New York City
		5	Consider including "extreme heat" events as a significant emergency in Chula Vista's portion of the County's Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan, and redefining "extreme heat" events	San Diego County Imperial County
		B Increased pressure on health of especially vulnerable groups: elderly, young children, outdoor workforce, socially-isolated people with pre-existing illnesses, homeless, those without access to air conditioning		
		6	Identify vulnerable residents in Chula Vista, and community groups working with vulnerable populations (e.g. hospitals, schools, Meals on Wheels) and ensure heat emergency outreach & education programs work with them	Milwaukee Phoenix Chicago
		7	Work with County to ensure "vulnerable populations" are a focus in County's Excessive Heat Response Plan and reverse 911 calls include current assessment of vulnerable population in Chula Vista	County of San Diego Keene
		8	Assess transportation options for residents (especially vulnerable populations) to reach cooling zones and improve access and awareness where possible, or provide rebates or incentives at cooling centers	Toronto
		9	Incorporate a public health element into the next General Plan update in order to improve overall health, physical activity, and resilience of residents through community design	Richmond El Monte Long Beach
		10	Outreach to businesses about California Occupational Safety and Health programs and standards for heat illness and employees working outdoors, in partnership with any relevant business, labor or community groups	California
	Decreased air quality from increased ground-level ozone formation, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs)	C General increase in occurrence and severity of respiratory illnesses and difficulty meeting air quality standards		
		11	Partner with local air quality management district (APCD) to enhance awareness of air quality index alerts and related outreach and education to protect residents' health	SMAQMD Citrus Heights

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			12 Ensure heat-related education programs are accompanied by information about air quality alerts where possible	Waterloo (Canada) Austin
			13 Work with other agencies (e.g. SANDAG, APCD, Federal CMAQ funds) to set up free transit or transit incentives on high ground-level ozone days to discourage vehicle use	San Francisco Rhode Island Arlington
		D Vulnerable groups: elderly, young children, socially-isolated people with pre-existing respiratory & cardiovascular disease, low income communities near freeways or arterials		
			14 Identify vulnerable residents in Chula Vista, and community groups working with vulnerable populations (e.g. health clinics, schools, Meals on Wheels) and ensure local air quality updates & education programs target them	----
	Increase in levels of exposure to some vector-borne & infectious diseases	E Higher risk from infections of West Nile Virus, malaria, dengue fever, rodent-transmitted Hantavirus		
			15 Work with County and other health groups to improve surveillance and communication to residents around diseases and pest control (e.g. "Fite the Bite" campaign)	San Diego County Keene
			16 Require untreated pools and other water features in homes that are in sale proceedings (including foreclosure) are drained to reduce potential breeding ground for mosquitos	Indio
Warmer temperatures & more variable precipitation	More frequent & intense wildfires, and other possible natural disasters	F Significant increase in occurrence and severity of respiratory illnesses and difficulty meeting air quality standards during wildfires		
			17 Work in partnership with local fire agency and County to increase public awareness about health dangers of wildfires, monitoring harmful exposures, and focused outreach to populations with existing respiratory or cardiovascular illness	----
		G Higher risk of losing public and private infrastructure from more frequent and intense fires		
			18 Develop comprehensive building codes to ensure resilience of private and municipal structures when wildfires occur, especially those near the wildland urban interface	California Eagle County
			19 Establish a limit or minimize expansion of the wildland-urban interface in planning documents	Chula Vista Wildland Urban Interface Code
			20 Direct city staff to investigate whether the city's building codes, wildlife urban interface code, and zoning rules need revision due to future increases in wildfires due to climate change	California
			21 Update the Chula Vista-focused portion of the County's Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan (which bases risk of hazards on historical trends) to include impact of climate change on hazards such as wildfires, which will occur more often than assumed in the past	California
			22 Add an education/audit component for homeowners in fire-prone areas participating in the Home Upgrade, Carbon Downgrade or California First program, by including information on possible home improvements to improve resiliency to wildfires	Anchorage Ferry County Arkansas

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		23	Ensure adequate shelters are in place as part of wildfire emergency response plans to provide displaced persons a healthy and safe temporary shelter	LA County
		H	Possible energy infrastructure damages during wildfires affects supply reliability during the emergency	
		24	Identify high fire risk areas that would allow for the safe burial of existing power lines (coordinated with road improvement projects and upgrades in the Capital Improvement Program) to avoid interruptions due to wildfire events	Keene LA County
		25	Establish in high (fire) risk areas, the requirement that new construction builders bury utilities during the construction phase.	Keene Erie/Neosho County

Sources for Listed Local Impacts and Corresponding Vulnerabilities	
A	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 42 (2008).</a>
B	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 42 (2008).</a>
	<a href="#">California Department of Public Health and the Public Health Institute. 2007. Climate Change Public Health Impacts Assessment and Response Collaborative</a>
C	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 27 (2008).</a>
	<a href="#">US Global Change Research Program. 2009. Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States: Human Health</a>
D	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 27 (2008).</a>
	<a href="#">California Adaptation Strategy. p40-44 (2009).</a>
E	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 30 (2008).</a>
	<a href="#">California Adaptation Strategy. p37 (2009).</a>
F	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 29 (2008).</a>
G	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 22 (2008).</a>
	<a href="#">California Climate Change Center. 2009. Potential Effects of Climate Change on Residential Wildfire Risk in California</a>
H	<a href="#">Focus 2050 Study Technical Assessment, page 22 (2008).</a>
	<a href="#">SANDAG. 2010. Climate Action Strategy</a>